

rence. The more exact and extended our researches on this subject become, the more clear will be our statements on the succession of created beings, the more certain our applications of zoological principles to determine the relative antiquity of rocks, and the more satisfactory our views of the formation of the strata."

In recommending this new and enlarged edition of Mr. Morris's 'Catalogue' to the careful study of the geologist and the natural-history student, we must express our hope that the Author will edit at frequent intervals, supplemental notices of the new species as they accumulate, as well as a set of synoptical lists and tables compiled from the present work, exhibiting at a glance the stratigraphical distribution of the families, genera, and species of fossils found in Great Britain and Ireland. This, though seemingly but a clerky task, will require the careful supervision of a master.

*Popular Conchology.* By AGNES CATLOW. Second Edition.  
London: Longmans, 1854. 12mo.

In this little book, of which a second edition is now before us, Miss Catlow has brought together, in a popular form, the characters of the genera of Mollusca; and although the work is, of course, almost entirely a compilation, the fair author appears to have exercised considerable judgment in the selection of materials, and her book, we should think, will prove exceedingly useful to the younger students of this branch of zoology.

The system adopted in the present edition is derived from that given by Philippi in his 'Handbuch,' founded upon the structure of the molluscous animals. In the first edition, Lamarck's shell system was followed. The generic characters are generally copied from the works of other authors; and, in most cases, the number of species included in each genus is given from the most recent authorities. Most of the genera are illustrated with very good woodcuts of the shells, which will greatly facilitate the work of the young conchologist in the arrangement of his collection.

There are some things, especially in the introductory chapter on the structure of the Mollusca in general, which might have been improved with very little additional trouble, but which would have rendered the book far more satisfactory. As an instance, we may refer to the very curious account given by our author of the mode of formation of shell. She tells us that from the mantle "a liquid exudes, which, on exposure to air or water, hardens into shell,"—an explanation of the phenomenon which we fear will hardly prove satisfactory to an inquiring mind. On the whole, however, Miss Catlow has produced a book which will no doubt be highly acceptable to a very large class of readers.